

ADVISORY COMMISSION ON COASTAL WATERS TOWN OF DARIEN

FLIP HUFFARD, CHAIRMAN
WILLIAM CAVERS, VICE CHAIRMAN
WALTER RALEIGH, VICE CHAIRMAN SHELLFISH
FRANK KEMP, CLERK
C. LINCOLN JEWETT
JOHN McDONALD
ROBERT MONRO
JON SHOUEL
PALMER SPARKMAN
STEVEN SPIVEY
ROBERT VILTER



EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS:
MARY FLNN, PARKS & REC COMM.
TOM BELL, HARBOR MASTER,
CAP. GARY PAVIA, POLICE

Green's Ledge Light

Minutes of October 1, 2014 Meeting

The meeting, in Room 119, Town Hall, was called to order at 7:30pm by Chairman Huffard.

Present were Chairman Huffard, Vice Chairman Cavers, and Commissioners Kemp, Jewett, McDonald, and Spivey.

Absent were Vice Chairman of Shellfish Raleigh, and Commissioners Monro, Schoudel, Sparkman and Vilter.

Also present were Harbor Master Tom Bell, past Darien Boat Club Commodore Dave Dever, and John Lundeen, of the Friends of Gorham Pond.

The minutes of the September 3, 2014 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Briefing on Gorham Pond

John Lundeen provided a background briefing on the status of Gorham Pond and its tributaries, Stony Brook and Goodwives River. Gorham Pond was enhanced eight years ago by the rebuilding of the dam and the installation of a fish ladder. The dam's gates are opened periodically to provide a degree of 'flushing' for the Pond, but the sediment is accumulating despite these efforts. Attention is now being directed to the remediation of silting caused by upstream erosion.

Emphasis is now being directed to the input to the Pond – Stony Brook and Goodwives River: with supporters of these efforts having success in securing various grants, as well as the redirection of the residue of Town funds unspent from the prior project. The project includes dredging of the Upper Pond as well as restoration of the Upper Pond dam. An application to the State DEEP is on hold at the moment, while property owners' permissions are secured for the work.

Chairman Huffard thanked Mr. Lundeen for his briefing on this matter and observed that while permits for these activities are in progress, there is no immediate effect on the lower harbor.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Huffard briefly recapped the status of several issues of interest to the Commission:

- The Commission may be expected to provide input to the Town Plan of Conservation and Development. The first meeting to start this planning process is October 22nd.

- The Army Corp of Engineers has granted a permit to the Boat Club (DBC) for the dredging effort associated with the expansion of dock space. David Dever noted that the DBC would first secure approval from its membership for this effort, and then, pending their approval, will submit the appropriate applications to the State DEEP for conduct of the dredging.

- The possibility of providing additional hazard markers for the harbor was discussed, with a chart showing potential locations these markers available for review. Harbor Master Bell noted that he would follow-up with discussions with the Town regarding funding for the additional markers.

Shellfish Chairman's Report

Commissioner Raleigh, Vice Chairman of Shellfish, was not present.

Harbor Master's Report

Harbor Master Bell, other than remarks regarding funding for new channel markers, did not present a formal report.

Review of September 23 Meeting with Coastline Consulting Regarding a Dredging Plan

Vice Chairman Cavers reviewed the findings of the meeting with Mark Jackson, President of Coastline Consulting & Development, LLC (Madison CT) regarding a future hydrographic conditions survey of the harbor channel. The purpose of the survey will be to compare the current conditions to the 2012 survey conducted by the same firm, so as to identify a filing rate and pattern of increase of sediment in the channel.

After discussion of the topic, the following recommendation was passed unanimously:

“We recommend that the Town undertake the formal survey of the depth of the harbor in the future, on a periodic basis. The Harbor Master will proceed to secure funds for the survey in February 2015.”

Other Business

A discussion of new potential Commission projects was deferred until a subsequent meeting, in view of the lateness of the hour.

Commissioner McDonald suggested that the CT Harbor Management Association be contacted, in that they have formed a sub-group of Harbor Masters who represent smaller harbors that do not have harbor management commissions.

Note was made of upcoming meetings of interest to the Commission:

- Citizens Advisory Council of Long Island Sound – October 10, New Rochelle
- CT Boating Advisory Council of the DEEP – November 12, New Haven

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 5, 2014 at 7:30pm, Room 119, Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Frank B. Kemp
Clerk